

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**No Kill Date**

**Date: March 15, 2018**  
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**Pittsburgh, PA** - Dr. Melessie E. Clark and The Pastor's Wives' of the Church of God in Christ Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania will commence the *46th Annual Spring Black History Achievement Celebration with an Environmental Health Conference (1:00 pm) and an Awards Banquet (7:00 pm) with special salutations from The Office of the Governor of State of Pennsylvania. The event will convene, Monday, April 02, 2018, at the beautiful Pittsburgh Airport Marriott Hotel located at 777 Aten Rd., Coraopolis, PA. The event brings community leaders together to empower them with skills and knowledge to serve and honors the distinguished educators, politicians, clergy and community workers for their services to strengthen families, especially the youth.*

This year's spring activities present a Forum of National Leaders with solutions for to the White House's Public Health Emergency: The Opioid. The Conference, begins at 1:00 PM, in the Grand Ballroom at the same venue. Speakers will present New Innovations in Recovery Programs.

The Annual Spring Black History Achievement Awards Banquet starts at 7:00 pm with a "Meet & Greet" for the Honorees proceeding the dinner at 6:00 pm. The Event will be filmed and televised on the "Highway and Hedges Outreach Ministry TV Show" on Peters Township Cable Television in Pittsburgh, PA. Entertainment will provided by Kyle Simpson and The Wash-Jeff Jazz Orchestra.

The Public is invited to attend. Conference Registration is FREE On-line Registration at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/april-02-2018-focusing-on-health-innovators-combating-the-opioid-crisis-national-emergency-tickets-44084454791>

Dinner tickets are \$50 in advance and \$100 at the door. Cash App payment to Melessie \_\_\_or\_\_\_ Credit card payments to the Event Organizer at 412) 313-3826. Special Thanks in advance for making this event a huge success. The Greater Pittsburgh Community has shown its support through attendance and direct contributions since 1972.

The 2018 Spring Environmental Health Conference & Black History Achievement Award Committee salutes the Conference Speakers & Honorees listed below.

**Monday, April 02, 2018 Conference Speakers**

Dr. Rhoda Zione Alale: Center for Health Equity & Urban Science Education,  
Columbia University, Teachers College

Dr. Charles Atwood, Jr.: VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Sleep Telehealth

Dr. Joan Duvall Flynn: NAACP

Nick DeGregoria: UPMC Health Plan

Mark Anthony Wright: Faculty Member, University of DC

Dr. Matthew Erlendson: Opioid Code-A-Thon

Dr. Dan Swayze: Vice President of Center for Emergency Medicine

Zan Dodson, PhD: UPMC Researcher

Sgt. Todd Rudy: Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Drug Enforcement Use

Trooper Gary S.Knott

Trooper Robert Warman

**2018 Honorees**

Pastor Alphonso Hamilton (VA)  
COGIC

Rev. Paul Abernathy (PA)  
Bridgeville, PA

Mayor Betty Copeland (PA)  
Bridgeville, PA

Astronaut Bernard Harris, MD, MBA (TX)  
NASA (Retired)

Dr. Joan Duvall Flynn (PA)  
NAACP

Ervin Dyer, PhD  
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, MD, JD (PA)  
Chairman, Duquesne University

V. Fawn Walker-Montgomery (PA)  
Political Activist

Hope Bell (OH)  
CEO, Champions in the Making Academy

Kenneth Clark, Jr (PA)  
Charles West Scholar, Wash-Jeff Un.

Mary Ridley Flowers (VA)  
Corporate Consultant, GWP

Obie Martin (NC)  
Promark Construction, VP

Barrington Scott (DC)  
Board Member, University of DC

Chris Shovlin (PA)  
Roberts University Sports Media

Jacqueline D. Wilson (PA)  
CEO, Three Rivers Adoption Council

Mark Anthony Wright (DC)  
Faculty Member, University of DC

**2018 International Honorees**

**Canada**

Mario Desmarais  
Environmental Health Physicist Practitioner, Farms

Pierre Doucet  
Environmental Health Physicist Practitioner

Rod Groome  
Environmental Health Physicist Practitioner

Len Shelley  
Community Activist, Environmental Health

Rita Shelley  
Community Activist, Environmental Health

**Haiti**

Mr. Wadson Desir  
Environmentalist

Mr. Jimmy Pierre  
Community Activist, Educator

